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Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods and on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods

Fifty-third session
Geneva, 25 June–4 July 2018
Item 11 of the provisional agenda
Other business

Availability of label and mark models in electronic format

Transmitted by the expert from Switzerland[1]

Summary

Executive summary: Only the pictograms contained in annex 1 of the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) are currently available on the Internet in different image file formats. Some labels and marks related to the transport of dangerous goods are not available. Their availability would be appreciated by many users and would support the harmonized application of the requirements.

Action to be taken: Make available on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe all label and mark models contained in Part 5 of the Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods.

Introduction

1. The pictograms contained in annex 1 of the Global Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (GHS) are available on the website of the Economic Commission for Europe in three different file formats. Accordingly, they can be used in communication or training materials or printed in full size. The relevant web page can be accessed under "Legal Instruments and Recommendations/GHS". A link to this page is also provided under "Dangerous Goods/Legal Instruments and Recommendations/UN Model Regulations". http://www.unece.org/trans/danger/publi/ghs/pictograms/exclam.gif.

2. By comparison with annex 1 of the GHS, only some of the labels and marks provided for in Part 5 of the Model Regulations on the Transport of Goods are presented on

[1] In accordance with the programme of work of the Sub-Committee for 2017–2018 approved by the Committee at its eighth session (see ST/SG/AC.10/C.3/100, para. 98 and ST/SG/AC.10/44, para. 14).

the web page. The labels for classes 6.2, 9 and 9A, the lithium battery mark and the elevated temperature substance mark are lacking. So too is the "hazardous to the environment" mark without a red border, even though it is shown in table A1.29 of annex 1 to the GHS.

3. Many stakeholders would welcome the possibility to download all labels and marks required for transport in accordance with the Model Regulations. To avoid confusion, it would be prudent for the pictograms of the GHS and the labels and marks of the Model Regulations to be presented separately.

Proposal

4. The secretariat of the Economic Commission for Europe is invited to adapt and enhance the website as follows:

- Under "Dangerous Goods/Legal Instruments and Recommendations/UN Model Regulations/Labels (GHS)", delete the word "(GHS)" and make available all labels and marks contained in Chapters 3.4 and 3.5 and Part 5 of the Model Regulations. Insert a link to the "GHS/GHS pictograms" page.
- On the "Dangerous Goods/Legal Instruments and Recommendations/GHS/GHS pictograms" page, insert a link to the "UN Model Regulations/Labels" page.

Justification

5. The proposed adjustments are intended to avoid confusion and ensure the reliable, accurate and uniform application of the requirements.